

# CAMDEN CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS IN CAMDEN

SEPTEMBER 2019



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Camden Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Crisis brought together over 50 randomly selected residents from Camden during July 2019 to develop an approach for how Camden can best tackle the climate crisis.

Across its three sessions, the citizens' assembly heard a range of evidence outlining the facts of the climate and ecological crisis and the ways in which it can be tackled, before developing and agreeing 17 actions that should be taken by residents, community groups, businesses and the council in Camden.

The Home	The Neighbourhood	The Council
1. Encourage low carbon dietary choices	6. Plant more trees and create more allotments	12. Establish a Climate Emergency scrutiny panel made up of experts and residents
2. Make all new homes carbon zero	7. Pilot a community energy heating scheme	13. Make all council properties fossil fuel free
3. Create more green space on residential streets	8. Install more segregated cycle lanes	14. Improve council communications and engagement on climate change
4. Fit solar panels on as many homes as possible	9. Promote and trial car free zones and days	15. Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis
5. Campaign to make CO2 reduction fun	10. Enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives	16. Green the council's operations
	11. Developers to fund energy efficient retrofits of old buildings	17. Plant trees and retain public spaces

All 17 actions received a clear majority of support from assembly members, with none receiving less than 75% agreement and the majority receiving more than 90%. They will be presented to a full council meeting in October 2019 and set the direction of a new Climate Action Plan for Camden to be published in 2020.

# 01. INTRODUCTION

The Camden Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Crisis brought together over 50 randomly selected residents from Camden during July 2019 to develop an approach for how Camden can best tackle the climate crisis.

The citizens' assembly met over two evening sessions and one Saturday to hear evidence, deliberate and make recommendations to the council and the wider community.

The citizens' assembly was asked to address the question:

“We are now facing a climate and ecological crisis. How can the council and the people of Camden help limit the impact of climate change while protecting and enhancing our natural environment? – What do we need to do in our homes, neighbourhoods, council and country?”

The citizens' assembly was asked to develop a series of actions at each scale – home, neighbourhood, council – that can be progressed by the necessary stakeholders. These will be presented to a full council meeting in October 2019 and set the direction of a new Climate Action Plan for Camden to be published in 2020.

Across its three sessions, the citizens' assembly heard a range of evidence outlining the facts of the climate and ecological crisis and the ways in which it can be tackled, before developing and agreeing 17 actions that should be taken by residents, community groups, businesses and the council in Camden.

This report sets out how the citizens' assembly worked and what actions it agreed. It has been written by Involve, based on the work and recommendations of the citizens' assembly. We have sought to represent the citizens' assembly as faithfully as possible – reporting its conclusions and not adding our own interpretation or analysis.

## 02. HOW THE CITIZENS' ASSEMBLY WORKED

The organisation of the citizens' assembly was led by officers from Camden Council, overseen by an advisory board and supported by Involve.

The independent advisory board was tasked with reviewing the content and structure of the citizens' assembly to ensure that assembly members were provided with information and evidence that adequately addressed the key issues and enabled them to deliberate in an informed manner. The members of the advisory board were:

- **Richard Jackson**, Director of Environmental Sustainability, University College London (UCL);
- **Dr Joanna MacRae**, Climate Emergency Camden; and
- **Duncan Price**, Director of Sustainability, BuroHappold Engineering.

The council commissioned Involve<sup>1</sup> – a leading public participation charity with an expertise in designing and delivering citizens' assemblies – to advise on the development of the assembly and lead on its design and facilitation. Involve worked with the Democractic Society – a non-profit organisation – to facilitate the assembly sessions.

### 2.1. The citizens' assembly members

The members of the citizens' assembly were recruited by Camden's Community Researchers through door-to-door and on street recruitment. Camden's Community Researchers are a group of researchers who live in Camden and are familiar with the borough. They have been trained by the council and are employed to carry out various tasks that need inside knowledge of Camden's communities, such as surveying or recruiting.

Individuals were approached at random by the Community Researchers and could not put themselves forward for inclusion in the citizens' assembly. The Community Researchers were given target numbers per ward to ensure representative borough coverage. In total, the Community Researchers recruited more than 150 residents. Residents invited to participate in the Assembly were then selected through a process of "random stratified sampling" to be representative of Camden's demographic profile.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.involve.org.uk](http://www.involve.org.uk)

Assembly members were given a £150 voucher at the end of the citizens' assembly in order to incentivise and recognise their involvement. An onsite creche was provided for assembly members with children and translators were provided for participants not fluent in English.

Overall	Camden population	Assembly members	Comparison
<b>Gender</b>			
Female	50.33%	53.57%	+3.24%
Male	49.67%	46.42%	-3.25%
<b>Age</b>			
16-44	60.77%	39.28%	-21.49%
45 and over	39.23%	60.71%	+21.48%
<b>Ethnicity</b>			
White	69.14%	57.14%	-12.00%
Mixed	4.10%	5.35%	+1.25%
Asian	16.80%	17.85%	+1.05%
Black	6.00%	10.71%	+4.71%
Other	3.96%	8.92%	+4.96%
<b>Ward</b>			
Belsize	5.34%	3.57%	-1.77%
Bloomsbury	5.30%	1.78%	-3.52%
Camden Town with Primrose Hill	5.78%	14.20%	+8.42%
Cantelowes	5.47%	7.14%	+1.67%
Fortune Green	5.33%	3.57%	-1.76%
Frognal and Fitzjohns	5.25%	7.14%	+1.89%
Gospel Oak	4.74%	5.35%	+0.61%
Hampstead Town	4.75%	3.57%	-1.18%
Haverstock	5.33%	7.14%	+1.81%
Highgate	4.68%	3.57%	-1.11%
Holborn and Covent Garden	6.24%	3.57%	-2.67%

Kentish Town	6.11%	5.35%	-0.76%
Kilburn	5.37%	7.14%	+1.77%
King's Cross	5.24%	1.78%	-3.46%
Regent's Park	6.17%	5.35%	-0.82%
St Pancras and Somers Town	7.20%	1.78%	-5.42%
Swiss Cottage	5.69%	8.92%	+3.23%
West Hampstead	6.00%	8.92%	+2.92%
<b>Housing Tenure</b>			
Owner Occupier	32.90%	25.00%	-7.90%
Social Renter	33.10%	44.64%	+11.54%
Private	32.20%	30.35%	-1.85%



## 2.2. The work of the citizens' assembly

The citizens' assembly met three times during July 2019, with two three-hour evening sessions and one six-hour Saturday session.

The process was designed by Involve, with input from the advisory group, council officers and the Democratic Society. Each session was led by two experienced lead facilitators from Involve and the Democratic Society. Tables were facilitated by a mixture of council staff and independent facilitators. Council staff were trained in facilitation techniques by Involve ahead of the first citizens' assembly session.

In addition to the expert evidence that was presented by witnesses during the assembly sessions, the citizens' assembly was informed by significant engagement with the wider community in Camden. The council's Commonplace platform was used to collect 225 submissions of proposals for the assembly to consider. A series of engagement events were held with schools in the area to collect ideas from the future generation. As well as being included in the bank of ideas that the citizens' assembly considered in session 3, these were also displayed for assembly members to look at during breaks. Finally, Camden Council also worked with the Camden Climate Change Alliance to collect ideas from local businesses.

Over 600 ideas for actions were collected in total from this community engagement. Approximately 200 of these were selected for consideration by the citizens' assembly. They were selected to cover the diversity of the ideas submitted (e.g. removing duplication of similar ideas submitted by multiple people). As outlined further below, these ideas formed the starting point for the citizens' assembly during its third session when considering the actions that should form the action plan.

### Session 1: Climate Change and Camden

The first session of the citizens' assembly focused on providing the assembly members with key background information about the climate science, the current situation in Camden and future possible scenarios.

It began with a welcome by **Georgia Gould** – the Council Leader – and **Sir Keir Starmer MP** – local member of Parliament, who emphasised the importance of the citizens' assembly.

Following this welcome, the participants were introduced to the assembly purpose and question, what they would consider in each session, and the agenda for the evening. Some draft conversation guidelines were presented to the assembly, which assembly members were invited to make additions to during the session.

Following a short ice-breaker exercise on the tables, the main business of the assembly meeting began with two presentations that laid out the current situation. **Professor Mark Maslin** – University College London – presented the science of climate change and its ecological impacts and **Chris Dunham** – Carbon Descent – presented the current CO2 emissions in Camden and where the borough might get to in 2030.

Following each presentation, assembly members considered the key points that had been raised, noting these down on a postcard to themselves, and then agreed questions on their tables to put to the presenters during the Q&A. The evening ended with a Q&A session where each table put their highest priority question to each of the two speakers.





## Session 2: Pathways to the future

The second session focused on inspiring assembly members with ideas of actions that could be taken in the home, neighbourhood and council. It was divided into three panels of speakers, each addressing one of the three levels.

The first panel addressed actions that can be taken at home. **Stephen Evans** and **Debbie Bourne** – two Camden residents – spoke about individual lifestyle choices and **Chris Newman** – Retrofit Works – spoke about domestic retrofit.

The second panel focused on actions that can be taken in the neighbourhood. **Leo Murray** – 10:10 – spoke about community action and **Trevor Keeling** – BuroHappold – spoke about neighbourhoods of the future.

The third panel looked at actions that can be taken by the council. **Joanna Marshall-Cook** – UCL – spoke about the experience of sustainability at UCL and **Dee Searle** – Climate Emergency Camden – spoke about Climate Emergency Camden’s proposed action plan for Camden.

Following each panel, assembly members considered the key points that the presenters had raised, noting these down on a postcard to themselves, and then agreed questions on their tables to put to them. The session ended with the speakers rotating around the tables to talk with assembly members and answer their questions.

## Session 3: Action planning

The third, and final, session focused on assembly members prioritising, developing and agreeing actions that should be taken in the home, neighbourhood and council.

Three experts were on hand throughout the day to answer questions and offer advice to assembly members:

- **Chris Dunham**, Carbon Descent
- **Joanna Marshall-Cook**, University College London
- **Dee Searle**, Climate Emergency Camden

The morning focused on prioritising actions that had been collected through the wider community engagement. It was divided into three rounds of discussions, during which assembly members boiled down over 200 ideas to what they considered to be the 18 strongest, in terms of impact and feasibility.

Assembly members were divided into nine groups, seated around nine tables. Each table was assigned one of the levels (home, neighbourhood, council), with three tables looking at each

level. The ideas for each level were divided equally between the three tables, with an attempt made to ensure each table had a good range of different ideas.

During the first round, assembly members were asked to sort the ideas at their table into three groups:

- Green – A great idea to be progressed;
- Amber – An interesting idea but needs development; or,
- Red – An idea not worth pursuing further.

Assembly members were also given the opportunity to add their own ideas if they felt something was missing. At the end of the round, each group rotated to another table to look at a different level.

During the second round, assembly members were asked to select the four or five best ideas on their new table. To do this, each group started by reviewing how the previous group had sorted the ideas, particularly focusing on those that had been made green or amber. Table facilitators were able to summarise the reasoning of the previous group, but groups were allowed to move ideas if they disagreed with where they had been placed. Again, assembly members were given the opportunity to add additional ideas if they felt something important was missing, or improve one of the existing ideas to make it stronger. At the end of the round, each group rotated again to look at the last level they had not yet considered.

The goal of the last round was to take the four or five strongest ideas selected at each table in the previous round, combine them with the other ideas selected for that level, and decide on the six best. This round was done as three large groups (i.e. one for each level) and began with the table facilitators presenting the four or five ideas that had been selected by their previous group. At this point, groups could choose to combine ideas together if similar ones had emerged from more than one table. Once the 12 to 15 ideas for their level had been presented, each participant was given three sticky dots to cast their vote for the best. The six that received the most votes for each level proceeded through to the afternoon to be worked up in more detail.

Following lunch, assembly members returned to new groups for the afternoon, which focused on developing the 18 ideas that had been selected into more detailed actions to form the action plan. Two ideas were randomly assigned to each of the nine small groups for them to work on, with a template of questions to complete. At this stage, one of the groups decided that one of the ideas they had been assigned under the Home category was not worth pursuing. They decided to put it to the full group to drop the action.

The actions were presented to the full citizens' assembly and assembly members were asked to vote via private ballot papers on the extent to which they agree or disagree with the

action. The full voting results are presented alongside the actions in the following section of this report.

The citizens' assembly ended with a short talk and Q&A with **Georgia Gould**, the Leader of the Council.



## 03. THE ACTION PLAN

The Camden Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Crisis agreed 17 actions across the levels of the Home, Neighbourhood and Council.

All 17 actions received a clear majority of support from assembly members, with none receiving less than 75% agreement and the majority receiving more than 90%. The table below shows the full list of actions with the level of support they received.<sup>2</sup>

Action	Agree	Disagree
<b>Home</b>		
1. Encourage low carbon dietary choices	86%	14%
2. Make all new homes carbon zero	96%	4%
3. Create more green space on residential streets	89%	11%
4. Fit solar panels on as many homes as possible	100%	0%
5. Campaign to make CO2 reduction fun	94%	6%
<b>Neighbourhood</b>		
6. Plant more trees and create more allotments	98%	2%
7. Pilot a community energy heating scheme	98%	2%
8. Install more segregated cycle lanes	84%	16%
9. Promote and trial car free zones and days	76%	24%
10. Enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives	96%	4%
11. Developers to fund energy efficient retrofits of old buildings	86%	14%
<b>Council</b>		
12. Establish a Climate Emergency scrutiny panel made up of experts and residents	94%	6%
13. Make all council properties fossil fuel free	100%	0%
14. Improve council communications and engagement on the climate crisis	98%	2%
15. Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis	90%	10%
16. Green the council's operations	98%	2%

<sup>2</sup> Percentages are of all eligible votes cast by assembly members. Full voting results are detailed below.

17. Plant trees and retain public spaces	98%	2%
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Each of the actions has been summarised in this section, with the full results of the votes by assembly members. The summaries have been written by Involve, based on the detailed actions developed by assembly members during the third session of the citizens' assembly. The original wording of the actions, along with the detailed recommendations of the assembly members, can be found in the annex.



## 3.1. Home

The citizens' assembly agreed five actions at the level of the Home. All received a clear majority of support, but the action that received the most significant support – with 78% of assembly members in strong agreement – was to “fit solar panels on as many homes as possible.”

### 1. Encourage low carbon dietary choices

Schools, shops, supermarkets, community groups, the council and residents should encourage low carbon dietary choices through communication and information campaigns; teaching new skills and ideas; consolidating buying power; getting the “right” products into communities; making choices easy and practical; and identifying the “right” foods for consumers and shops.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
28%	56%	12%	2%	2%

### 2. Make all new homes carbon zero

The council, contractors and developers should ensure that all new homes are carbon zero, including installing solar panels, good insulation and use of solar, heat and wind for heating, and no on site parking spaces should be allowed. Legally binding requirements that new builds are zero carbon and eco friendly should be introduced, with offsetting only allowed to a degree. Plans for building development should be inspected by experts to ensure compliance before sign-off or planning permission is given.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
68%	28%	4%	0%	0%

### 3. Create more green space on residential streets

Residents, the council, local tenants associations and retailers should work together to green their streets. Volunteers should be encouraged to set up local collaborations with nurseries and parks. The council should publicise that planting on the kerb is ok and set out general rules and restrictions. The council should mark our suggested planter areas and/or deliver filled planters. Financial incentives should be provided to streets who maintain their planting.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
46%	38%	10%	0%	6%

### 4. Fit solar panels on as many homes as possible

The council should lead on installing solar panels on as many homes as possible. It should introduce a loan system for residents to purchase solar panels; provide simple and trusted advice on solar panel suitability and installation; bulk buy solar panels to create a central supply; train more people to install panels; consider planning permission to allow installation; and install on council blocks, schools and public buildings.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
78%	22%	0%	0%	0%

### 5. Campaign to make CO2 reduction fun

The council should use simple language that people can relate to – and marketed appropriately – to promote carbon reduction and make it fun. A monthly share day should be held where people can share actions they are taking with other community members.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
50%	40%	6%	0%	4%

## 3.2. Neighbourhood

The citizens' assembly agreed six actions at the level of the Neighbourhood. Again, all actions received a clear majority in favour of them, but the action that received most support – with 76% strongly in favour – was to “pilot a community energy heating scheme”.

### 6. Plant more trees and create more allotments

The council, schools, businesses and community should work together to plant more trees, community fruit trees and allotments. Bollards should be replaced with plant pots. A feasibility study should be carried out of what trees can be planted and where. Plans should be developed for allotments and community planting, with wasteland, empty spaces and car parks prioritised for planting. No toxic pesticides should be used.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
62%	36%	2%	0%	0%

### 7. Pilot a community energy heating scheme

The council or an expert partner should pilot the use of a central heat pump for several homes, ideally in a mixed residency area, to demonstrate the technology. This should be used to create publicity, with public facing explanations of the technology and the existing subsidies for installation and output. The council could issue a corporate bond with a repayment term of 25 years to fund the installation of central heat pumps.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
76%	22%	0%	2%	0%



## 8. Install more segregated cycle lanes

The council, Transport for London and the Greater London Authority should install more segregated cycle lanes to allow more people to cycle, rather than using cars. Cycle lanes should easily stand out. Unnecessary vehicles should be banned from parking to create lanes for bicycles. "Time zones" should be created around schools at drop-off and pick up times that ban cars from using certain roads.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
48%	36%	12%	4%	0%

## 9. Promote and trial car free zones and days

The council should identify where car free zones could be, focusing particularly on tourist zones. Local community groups could pitch for zones and volunteer to support them (e.g. with bike fixing services). Transport for London should support with alternative modes of transport in the zones. The council should conduct engagement and promotional exercises to communicate and persuade people of the benefits. The council should coordinate with emergency services and avoid areas with hospitals.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
50%	24%	15%	8%	2%

## 10. Enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives

The council should install charging facilities for electric cars and introduce incentives, such as reduced parking fees, for their use. It should create separate lanes for electric bikes and other innovative vehicles and partner with car sharing companies to provide further reductions for electric car-sharing schemes (e.g. parking spots reserved for car-sharing).

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
68%	26%	4%	0%	2%

## 11. Developers to fund energy efficient retrofits of old buildings

The council should scope out the work that is required to retrofit old buildings, including identifying a pool of contractors, considering the types of interventions and selecting the sites to treat. Improvements to old properties should be funded by developers as part of their planning obligations.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
46%	38%	12%	2%	2%



### 3.3. Council

The citizens' assembly agreed six actions at the level of the council. Again, all actions received a clear majority in favour of them, but the action that received most support – with 72% strongly in favour – was to “plant trees and retain public spaces”. This was very closely followed by “make all council properties fossil fuel free”.

#### 12. Establish a Climate Emergency scrutiny panel made up of experts and residents

An external and independent agency, with no invested interested, should be asked to establish a climate scrutiny panel to ensure projects are delivered effectively, efficiently and in the best interests of residents and the climate. It should be made up of experts and citizens, who bring a wide range of expertise.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
46%	46%	6%	0%	2%

#### 13. Make all council properties fossil fuel free

The council should ensure that all heating and energy supply to properties that it is responsible for are fuelled by non-fossil fuels by 2030. It should review all housing and building assets to assess where gas and oil supply should be retrofitted with non-fossil fuels, phased from 2020 to 2030.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
70%	30%	0%	0%	0%

#### 14. Improve council communications and engagement on the climate crisis

The council, in collaboration with community groups and other external actors, should improve its communications and engagement. This should include providing more engagement and information events; developing the Camden website into a resources hub; creating an email newsletter for residents; developing a list of green groups; providing information about where to go for support, advice and expertise; using social media for intergenerational engagement and including a regular environment section in the Camden magazine.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
52%	44%	2%	0%	2%

### 15. Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis

The council should be open to partnering with a range of climate change groups to mobilise the community and deliver practical change. Where possible, it should provide grants to support the wider dissemination of climate change ideas. Clearer maps and information should be provided online, and opportunities should be promoted.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
42%	46%	6%	4%	2%

### 16. Green the council's operations

The council should green its operations by using a zero emissions vehicle fleet; purchasing from green suppliers and using electricity from renewable sources. It should commission an audit and options appraisal study, measure the costs of carbon emissions, and set targets with dates for reduction towards becoming carbon neutral.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
52%	42%	2%	0%	4%

### 17. Plant trees and retain public spaces

The council should identify possible sites for tree planting and existing trees should be maintained. Some large paved areas should be switched to grassland. Schools should be involved in planting around their sites and all new developments should be required to incorporate green space or pay money for green space to be developed elsewhere.

Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	DNV / Spoilt Ballot
72%	26%	2%	0%	0%

## 04. CONCLUSION

The Camden Citizens' Assembly on the Climate Crisis was the first citizens' assembly on climate change to be run by a local authority in the UK.

Drawing on expertise and ideas of the wider community, experts, schools and business, the citizens' assembly agreed a comprehensive set of actions that can be taken in homes, neighbourhoods and the council across Camden.

It has demonstrated the role that residents from all walks of life can play in developing a local approach to tackling the climate crisis. All 17 actions received a clear majority of support from assembly members, with none receiving less than 75% agreement and the majority receiving more than 90%. They therefore provide a solid foundation for action by residents, community groups, businesses and the council.

The actions will now be presented to a full council meeting in October 2019 and set the direction of a new Climate Action Plan for Camden to be published in 2020.



# ANNEX: DETAILED ACTIONS

This annex reproduces the details of the actions developed by assembly members during the citizens' assembly.

In groups, assembly members considered how the actions they were developing could be delivered, including what would need to be done, who should be responsible, what resources would be required, what impacts (both positive and negative) it would have, and what would be the timescale for implementation. These were noted down on A3 templates during the session.

What follows is a verbatim write-up of these templates.

## 1. Encourage low-carbon dietary choices

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Eat less red meat, including your pets
- Encourage low-carbon dietary choices (food + waste)

Low carbon dietary choices:

- Encourage 'low carbon' meals
- More education in community spaces
- Raising awareness and more food education
- Links to food waste projects

### ACTIONS<sup>3</sup>

- Communicate / information campaign(s)
  - different audiences (age; language) (1)
  - experts' advice (2)
  - Events (3)
  - ID the low-carbon choice (3)
- Teach new skills / ideas (4)
- Consolidate buying power (5)
- Get the "right" products into our communities (6)
- Make choices easy / practical (7)

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<sup>3</sup> NB: The numbering under actions corresponds to those under responsibility, and vice versa.

- ID the “right foods (8)
  - tell consumers
  - tell shops

## RESPONSIBILITY

- Schools: 1, 2, 4
- Council: 1, 2, 4, 6
- Local shops: 3, 6
- Local customers / consumers: 5, 8
- Supermarkets: 3, 7

## RESOURCES

- £ + community awareness / networks
- Standard labelling
- Training (e.g. for caterers) + education
- Resource packs
- Language translation (e.g. for community groups)

## IMPACTS

- Everyone (+)
- Local shops (+/-) (new sales and/or loyalty ; higher cost/risk products)
- Supermarkets (+/-) (cleaner supply chain? ; higher cost products?)
- Local residents (+/-) (healthier options ; more expensive food)

## TIMESCALES

- ASAP (need); 2 years (realistic)
- Some faster than others

## 2. Make all new homes carbon zero

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- All new homes to be built to Zero-Carbon.
  - Solar panels
  - Good insulation
  - Environmentally friendly

- Heating 365 days → solar / heat / wind
- No on-site parking spaces allowed

## ACTIONS

- legally binding legislation that requires all new builds to be ZERO-Carbon + eco-friendly. Builders can only offset to a low degree
- To achieve this plan, we need to keep developers accountable
- Building plans need to be scrutinised for zero carbon standards before receiving planning permission. Plan needs to be provided early on. Permission only given if it is net 0 carbon
- We need building inspection by eco experts before we can sign off for building development

## RESPONSIBILITY

- Council + contractors
- Those funding the development.
- Companies who build

## RESOURCES

- Training of builders, inspectors + architects.
- Camden to have a standard of what the requirements are
- Companies to provide green materials
- Camden to buy some “green” (goods?) solar panels.
- External expertise UCL / RBA

## IMPACTS

- Developers. If they have limited resource / expertise in 0-carbon the company might struggle
- Could increase rent – less affordable. Impacts negatively low/middle income residents
- Local people will benefit from being around eco-buildings

## TIMESCALES

- Could be implemented immediately it is has strong political will



## 3. Create more green space on residential streets

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Green your street growing habitat and community (e.g. sponsorship, community groups)

### ACTIONS

- Encourage volunteers to set up local collaboration with nurseries / (ports?)
- Neighbourhood challenge – street by street – postcode marketing
- Recruit volunteer (1) on a street by street (or street section) basis

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Council publicises the fact that planting on kerb is ok – and sets general rules / restrictions that are clear
- Local tenants associations (and local retailers)
- Council maybe marks out suggested planter areas / or delivers filled planters to create suitable rows

### RESOURCES

- Financial incentives to streets that successfully maintain plants for 2 (?) years → reduce council tax for green neighbourhood businesses / business partners
- Create online portal / destination for competition / uploads / picture “wall”
- Deliver free filled planters where volunteer had committed to planting
- support (advertise in Camden New Journal) a round of competition

### IMPACTS

- Community strengthened
  - social benefits

### TIMESCALES

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## 4. Fit solar panels on as many homes as possible

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Solar panels on as many homes as possible. Target: All available blocks.

### ACTIONS

- Need to consider planning permission to allow as many people to install as possible
- Funding
  - central government
  - Residents
  - grants / loans
  - council / climate
- Camden to install on council blocks, schools, public building. → funding for community projects from any export payback.
- Potential loan system when residents pay council back over timescale
- Education and advice available of how to install and whether it is suitable (simplicity / trusted contractor)
- Bulk buy solar panels – central supply of panels.
- More training of people to install panels.
- Communication and publication of the offer → interlink other offers.

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Council
  - education
  - loan / grant
  - trusted installer
  - bulk buying system
  - community company
  - communication
  - planning
  - cranes

### RESOURCES

- Maintenance regime of panels – need to be resourced
- External generation for buildings not suitable → more resources for council
  - Suppliers

- Contractors
- Funding
- Audit suitability of homes for panels
- Control of process to ensure quality

## IMPACTS

- Visual impacts
- Noise of building works
- Deliveries (carbon impact)
- Conservation areas changing their visual views
- H&S aspect
- Impacts are short term but positives are longer
- Low carbon!
- Cost savings

## TIMESCALES

- 5 years

## 5. Campaign to make CO2 reduction fun

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Make CO2 reduction fun!
- (pretty, cool, catchy) – include in schools curriculum

### ACTIONS

- Use simple language
- Information that people can relate with. (marketed appropriately)
- Monthly “SHARE” Day where people are prepared to share items with other community members

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Camden Council and Residents
- Camden Council has a responsibility for communicating adequately to each audience

## RESOURCES

- Dedicated budget for communication
- Dedicated Council building room for the “Share Day”

## IMPACTS

- Everyone exposed to the Communication would benefit from learning about how to lessen their CO2 emissions.

## TIMESCALES

- 2 years and then ongoing

# 6. Plant more trees and create more allotments

## WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Plant more trees and preserve the ones we have.
- Plant more trees. More community fruit trees. More allotments.

## ACTIONS

- Replace bollards with plant pots which are self-maintained
- Feasibility of what trees can be planted where spaces could be
- Better plan for allotments and community planting
- Protection for areas – designated spaces (Communities)
- Getting engagement from community
- School engagement
- Skill sharing + education
- Way for council to use wasteland to allow residents to plant allotments
- No toxic pesticides
- Voices to council saying they need allotments
- Car parks and other empty spaces should be prioritised

## RESPONSIBILITY

- Should be a community-led initiative
- Council
  - Training

- provide spaces
- leniency on guerilla gardening
- pesticides (STOP)!
- Schools
  - involve in process
- FEASIBILITY STUDY!
- Community
  - people to engage each other
  - involve schools
  - individual action
  - skill sharing
- Businesses
  - sponsored roundabouts, etc.
  - social responsibility
  - funding / sponsorship
  - roof garden / food

## RESOURCES

- Land → where could trees be planted
- → involve conversations with local community to identify areas
- Choosing the right trees for planting
- Focus on long term focus
- Vines / apple trees
- Trees for cities → joint up with community groups with this agenda
- Kings cross – plants in big enclosed spaces

## IMPACTS

- Accessibility of streets for wheelchairs, prams
- Issues with health & safety
- Wildlife! Birds and bees encouraged
- Health
- Cleaner air
- Helping people with food insecurity
- People feeling like they are community connected to where they live
- More connected to nature
- Children knowing where food comes from

## TIMESCALES

- Feasibility + community engagement and suggestions Community led! (1 year)
- 2-3 years for delivery

## 7. Pilot a community energy heating scheme

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Community energy generation schemes

### ACTIONS

- District Heating
  - Heat Pumps
  - Cooling system
  - subsidies existing
  - tech is proven, but complicated to explain
  - pilot scheme
  - → then roll out
  - take gas out of home (health?)
  - Repayment Period 10 years BOND
- A pilot of...
- One central heat pump for several homes.
  - digging street / installing
  - → ideally a mixed residency area of
  - council tenants
  - leaseholders
  - property owners
- This idea has been implemented in Canada
  - look at how it was achieved + create a resource that explains how it could be done
- Explain the existing subsidies (installation AND output) so that communities can understand the appeal
- Technology is proven but complicated to explain → create public facing explanation

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Camden could issue a corporate bond with repayment term of 25 years.
- Camden could have to be a guarantor.

- (1) Camden or an expert partner could run a pilot and use this as publicity.
- Also get manufacturers involved to publicise

## RESOURCES

- Funding from organisations - e.g government funding
- Funding is key to make it happen – repays itself in about 10 years

## IMPACTS

- Digging up the street would impact local residents but we hope they would see it as paying off
- Residents costs are similar to a gas boiler. Financial impact would depend on how returns shared – costs could be 25% lower

## TIMESCALES

- Pilot set up by Council within 2 years. (ideally a street of mixed ownership homes) Then evaluated/publicised within 5 years.
- Rollout to follow-up asap afterwards.
- Financial summary of the pilot (including bond costs) – see “Responsibility”

## 8. Install more segregated cycle lanes

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- More (segregated) cycle lanes to allow more people and children to cycle rather than using cars/phV

### ACTIONS

- Ban unnecessary vehicle (cars/PHV) [public Haulage] from parking → this will create lanes for bicycles
- Create “time zones” in the day during school drop off/pick ups, when cars are banned from using certain roads around schools
- Design of cycle lanes has to be bright and stand out

### RESPONSIBILITY

- TfL + Camden Council + GLA

- Camden residents to hold these authorities accountable

## RESOURCES

- Allocated funding to put in place the initiative
- Cycle proficiency courses to encourage people to go back on their bikes

## IMPACTS

- (+) health benefits to cycle lane users (e.g. children, any users)
- (-) car owners, taxi drivers, businesses negatively impacted (e.g. delivery restrictions)

## TIMESCALES

- Planning & infrastructures → 5 years timescale for dedicated cycle lanes
- Time zones could be implemented as soon as 2020

## 9. Promote and trial car free zones and days

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Promoting/trialling car-free zones and days

### ACTIONS

- Identify where the zones could be
- Tie with local events → engagement and promotion
- Focus on tourist zones / avoid hospital etc
- Communicate + persuade ppl of the benefits to get ppl on board
- Scale up existing initiatives
- Coordinate with emergency services / affected residents etc.

### RESPONSIBILITY

- The Council!
  - post restrictions
  - run engagement + cons[ultation] on zones
  - promote



## RESOURCES

- Local community organisations
  - - pitch for zones
  - - volunteer to support with e.g. bike fixing
- Need the will of the people!
- TfL support with alternative modes of transport in selected zones

## IMPACTS

- Shift/key workers
  - give them a pass?
  - factor into zone choice?
- 'Alternative routes' risk of increased traffic
  - promotion of car-free (rather than just change route)
- Shopping delivery vans
  - alert in advance
  - loading bay at end of street
- Regular hospital users
  - parking spot at end of street?
  - exceptions?

## TIMESCALES

- 18 months if you start on Monday!
- Need engagement phase – over winter
- introduce change in summer

# 10. Enable electric transport with infrastructure and incentives

## WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Enable electric transport
- Install Camden-wide electric car-charging facilities

## ACTIONS

1. Install Camden-wide electric car-charging facilities (charging points on solar-powered lampposts, petrol stations, etc.)
2. Incentives: reduced parking fees, road tax etc. for electric cars
3. Car-sharing: further reductions for electric car-sharing schemes → parking spots reserved for car-sharing
4. Separate lanes – for e-bikes and other innovative vehicles

## RESPONSIBILITY

- (1) (2) Council
  - independent actions
  - AND lobbying TfL, landlords, petrol stations + other private actors
- (3) collaborating with car-sharing companies
- (4) council

## RESOURCES

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## IMPACTS

- Discouraging private car ownership through incentives → support for shifting mindsets
- Safety issues? For new kinds of vehicles

## TIMESCALES

- Short term!

## 11. Developers to fund energy efficient retrofits of old buildings

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Developer-funded energy efficient improvements to existing buildings

## ACTIONS

1. Pool of contractors?
2. Who pays? (linked to 4 & 8)
3. Enforcement?
4. Number / amount of improvements?
5. Types of interventions?
6. Sites / homes to treat?
7. Scope potential £ available (linked to 1, 5, 6 & 7)
8. Consultation / permission

## RESPONSIBILITY<sup>4</sup>

- Council: 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7
- Local residents: 4, 8
- Developer: 2

## RESOURCES

- Many

## IMPACTS

- Utilities companies (-)
- Residents of impacted homes (+)
- Everyone! (+)
- Developers (+/-)
- EE improvement SMEs (+)

## TIMESCALES

- ASAP (need); 1 year (reality)

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<sup>4</sup> Numbering corresponds to the actions above

## 12. Establish a climate scrutiny panel made up of experts and residents

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Set up a climate scrutiny panel to ensure projects are delivered effectively, efficiently and in the best interests of residents + the climate

### ACTIONS

- Design expertise of panel
  - logistics
  - regularity
- Wide range of expertise on the panel
- What projects go to the scrutiny panel? The threshold needs to be developed
- How much power does this panel have. Is it just advisory, or will it be able to steer decision
- What would “good” be. A mission statement needed

### RESPONSIBILITY

- External + independent agency with no vested interests
- Citizen oversight
- Member of the council

### RESOURCES

- Space + facilities – preferably eco friendly
- Film the panels / live streaming
- A way of having an audience

### IMPACTS

- Residents → could be both positive and negatively
- Business → will have to educate themselves
- Provide: access to research and reports
- Support: ability to reject/appeal decisions from panel

## TIMESCALES

- This could happen quite quickly
- Governance + facilities would need to be developed first. 1 year.

## 13. Make all council properties fossil fuel free

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- All heating and energy supply to properties for which Camden Council is responsible should be fuelled by non-fossil fuels by 2030

### ACTIONS

- This would require a review of housing and building assets, to assess when gas and oil supply should be retrofitted with non-fossil fuels phased from 2020-2030
- Also ensure BMS is properly commissioned and re-commissioned regularly by professionals (Trevor Keeling)

### RESPONSIBILITY

- The Council

### RESOURCES

- Council officers to devise strategy
- Cost → balance between financial cost + climate change cost?

### IMPACTS

- Housing tenants – does this impact on tenants? In terms of increased rent (or could this be absorbed by greater council on larger houses)

### TIMESCALES

- 2030 – no council owned buildings using fossil fuels

## 14. Improve council communications and engagement on the climate crisis

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Improve council communications, education + engagement!

### ACTIONS

- More engagement + information events
- Camden website – resources hub
- Email newsletter for residents (with opt-in for GDPR)
- List of local green groups
- Development communication strategy together with existing community groups
- Info about where to go for support, advice + expertise (for individuals + groups)
- Better use of social media platforms for intergenerational engagement
- Regular environment section in Camden magazine (3x a year)

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Council, in collaboration with community groups + external actors
- → council communication department
- → sustainability team

### RESOURCES

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### IMPACTS

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### TIMESCALES

- 6-12 months
- Ongoing maintenance and update

## 15. Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Mobilise existing community groups to work on tackling the climate crisis

### ACTIONS

- Clearer maps / information online
- Promote opportunities
- Free advertising
- For Camden Council to be open to partnership with a range of climate change groups to mobilise the community + deliver practical change
- Where possible to provide grants to supporting
- How to we (unreadable) to keep bringing people together to tackle the challenge
- Community groups have a role to educate

### RESPONSIBILITY

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### RESOURCES

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### IMPACTS

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### TIMESCALES

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## 16. Green the council's operations

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Greening Council's operations

### ACTIONS

- A carbon cost ? i.e. an audit
- An options appraisal study = cost benefit and ? by 2025
- Need to think about off site emissions
- Targets with dates
- Guided by cost benefit analysis
- Measure the cost of carbon emissions
- Suggestions
  - Short / medium / long term
  - Shared with other councils
  - Carbon neutral Camden 10% per annum

### RESPONSIBILITY

- The Council

### RESOURCES

- Consider appropriate premium
- Join with other councils
- Institute
- Working with other partners in the borough i.e. UCL other academic institutions
- Industries to be concentrated to work up an innovation scheme

### IMPACTS

- Would council tax be raised
- Short term
- What is the key budget priorities
- Competing priorities
- Reduction in pollution



## TIMESCALES

- Guiding principle: -
- Camden taking a lead: -
- All Green Councils operating by

## 17. Plant trees and retain public spaces

### WHICH IDEA IS BEING DEVELOPED?

- Planting plants and trees and retaining public spaces

### ACTIONS

- Identify possible sites (e.g. not too close to housing in case affects foundations)
- All new developments required to incorporate green space or pay money for it to be done elsewhere
- Maintaining existing trees
- Add design around it (not just planting trees but flowers etc. as well)
- Involve schools to plant around their sites
- Create switch some large paved areas to grass

### RESPONSIBILITY

- Individuals
  - plant trees in back garden
- Council
  - authorising planting
  - coordinating overall design or supporting local residents' groups to do it themselves
  - enforcements around new developments

### RESOURCES

- experts supporting residents with advice on tree planting – horticultural college nearby? Capel Manor college
- local garden centres can give free lessons
- input from community/neighbourhood groups including volunteering to make it happen + giving residents confidence to do it themselves

## IMPACTS

- (+) children learn to garden
- (+) work experience for horticultural college students
- (-) drivers? Leaves bird poo etc. on park cars
- (-) hayfever sufferers → bring in expert advice for which trees are most suitable

## TIMESCALES

- one year (to include consultation)

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